To the Religious Institutions of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia:

The Commissioners appointed by the Governor under an act of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, passed April 2, 1821; to inquire into the causes and extent of Pauperism in the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, are anxious to possess all the information which they can procure, having an immediate or remote bearing upon the important subjects entrusted to their investigation. They are aware that most, if not all, of the Religious Societies in Philadelphia, contribute in a greater or lesser degree to the support of such of their members as become objects of compassion through the operation of causes which the vicissitudes of human affairs seem to have inseparably connected with the condition of man. Such objects of relief, if they did not derive the succour which the benevolence of their brethren in religious community administer privately, would, however painful it might be, receive assistance from the public provision which is made for persons in reduced circumstances. It follows, therefore, that pecuniary aid flowing from the charitable feelings of such Societies, is so much subtracted from what would otherwise have been the expense which the whole community would have been compelled to bear on this account, and hence the extent of the demand for such relief cannot be ascertained unless the information now solicited be obtained.—The Commissioners are far from indulging a desire to step within those limits which protect the affairs of every religious institution, and from which the knowledge of their private transactions cannot be drawn but with their own consent, consequently they feel great delicacy in making the subjoined inquiries, whilst they cannot conceal, that replies to them would prove highly important in enabling them to exhibit such a view of the subject, as is called for by the act of Assembly under which the Commission is constituted.

By order and on behalf of the Board of Commissioners on Pauperism.

ROBERTS VAUX,
President.

Attested, T. M. PETTIT, Secretary.

1. What is the average amount of money which you annually disburse for the relief of members of your Institution?

2. Do you disburse Clothing as well as money? If yea, please state the proportions.

3. What is the average number of individuals you annually relieve?

4. State, if possible, whether they are males or females, adults or children, sick or infirm, and how many of each.

Be pleased to give answers to the foregoing inquiries for as long a series of years as practicable—and also to state what in your opinion are the causes which produce the necessity for the relief which you distribute?

☞ *Answers to be sent to the office of the Secretary No. 36, South Fifth Street.*

Philadelphia, June 12, 1821.

R. Varick President &c
to
The Vestry of the United Churches -

To
The Corporation of
Christ Church -

To the Care of
Thos. H White Esqr

2846 61

To the Religious Institutions of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia:

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Philadelphia, June 12, 1821.

The

Rector, Church Wardens
& Vestrymen of the United
Churches of Christ Church,
St Mary & St James in the
City of Philadelphia —

I do nominate the Rev.d John Rodney as a suitable person
to be elected an assistant to Bishop White for one year

H.W. Harris
"

30 June 1825

nomination by Mr.

Dr Hosack

July 1. 1821

Sir

I have found, and inclose for your perusal the Letter I received from Mr White, which Mrs Abercrombie perfectly well remembers I sent, and I presume I must have sent the Pocket-book therein mentioned, to Mrs Meredith on the day I received them. Mrs Meredith returned the Letter, after perusal, accompanied by a polite Note, which (tho' I have preserved many of that Ladys Letters & Notes) I have not been able to find.

The Pen and manuscript, mentioned in the letter, I have got - but the Letter from Mr Parkman I cannot find, nor

do I remember ever having received such. The Packet, I believe, was left at my house while I was out.

I thank you, Sir, for informing me of the "railing accusation" brought by Mr Parkman against me; and, if you will favor me with his address, I will endeavour to appease him by an apology for my apparent inattention.

I am, Sir,

Your mo. hble Servt

Jas Abercrombie

Philad Aug 27th 1826.

Aug 7. 1824
Dr. C. Ellicott bill

ty acre
ing.

William Meredith Esqr
Corner of 10th & Chesnut Streets

Philad.a August 8. 1821

Sir

Your printed circular addressed to the Rector, Church Wardens and Vestry Men of the United Churches of Christ Church, St Peters & St James in the City of Philadelphia, was laid before that body, and by their request we avail ourselves of an early opportunity to answer seperately the questions proposed in your letter. We feel much interest in the arduous work you are engaged & anxiously hope for its success, which we think more than probable from the ability and extent of the measures taken upon to procure the desired informations. Should these expectations be realized we may look to the public burthens being lightened, and the condition and habits of the indigent poor meliorated and improved.

To the 1st Question we answer — That the annual disbursement for the relief of the members of our churches upon an average of 8 years is $2846.1

for the poor of Christ Church Hospital 1458.47

making together $4305.8

To the 2nd Question we answer That we do not disburse Nothing except in a very limited way to the

to the necessitous children connected with
the Sunday Schools attached to the Churches

To the 3rd Question we answer - That the number
of individuals annually relieved is 152 -

To the 4th Question we answer - The individuals
relieved by the charity of our
Churches are generally females
and about one half of the number
are infirm -

We remain very respectfully
Sir Your obt. Servants

Robert Barry Esqr
President of the Board
of Commissioners on Pauperism -

Church
Wardens -

The Instrument may be extended to Six hundred under the same provisions & Conditions, Novem 24. 1821 Chas Rees

If Scott Abercrombie will bring Mr. John Read's Obligatory letter to pay to Thomas & Morgan or Order. every three Months for four successive quarters — together four hundred dollars in fifteen Months from date of first quarter & state the time the first quarter is to be paid. Mr Morgan will then endorse Mr Abercrombie's Note for $500. & continue so to indorse, reducing the Note 100 Each quarter by the Money rec'd from Mr Read for each Qr, until the same be ex- -tinguished — the quarterly payment of $100. to be continued until said Note is extinguished

Chas Rees

Philad Nov 23. 1821

Revd Doct. L. Abercrombie

Dr Sir

Be pleased to pay to Chandler Price Esqr, or order, the sum of $100, out of every Quarters Salary which may become due to me as an Assistant Minister of Christ Church, St Peters, and St James's; commencing with that which will become due on 10th day of April 1822, and continuing quarterly until the sum of $600 be thus paid to the said Chandler Price Esqr.

Yours. Hble Servt
Jas Abercrombie

Philada
Novr 26th 1821.

(Copy)

The letter of Chandler Price Esq^r to The Rev. D^r Abercrombie, under date of 23 Inst^t — has been shewn to me by the latter gentleman. In conformity with engagement therein of Mr Price, I agree so long as I shall continue accounting Warden of the United Churches of Christ-Church, S^t Peters and S^t James's to pay out of the Salary of the Rev. D^r Abercrombie, as it becomes due, one hundred Dollars, quarterly to Chandler Price Esq^r the first quarterly payment to commence in April next and to continue until Five Hundred Dollars shall be so paid. It is understood that my engagement in the above is as Church Warden, and, in reference to the continuance of the Salary of D^r A. for the time of the quarterly payments mentioned.

(signed) John Read
Church Warden.

Philad^a Nov^r 24-1828.

Mr Price having by an addition to his letter agreed to extend the endorsement to $600, I promise to retain a further sum of $100 for his use, making the whole $600.

(signed) J. Read
C. W.

The letter of Chandler Price Esq.r to the Revd. D.r Abercrombie under date of the 23d. Inst.t has been shewn to me by the Rector Gov.rs in conformity with the engagement therein of Mr. Price - I agree as the accounting Warden of the United Churches of Christ Church & St. Peters & St. James - to pay out of the Salary of the Revd. Dr. Abercrombie - so long as I shall continue as Rector there $100 - quarterly to C. P. Esqr. the first quarterly payment to commence in April next, & to continue until $500 shall be so paid - It is understood that my engagement in the above is ~~if only~~ only in the event as Church Warden, ~~I am~~ in ~~reference~~ to the ~~my~~ continuance in ~~the~~ office as Rector ~~shall be~~ in case of the continuance of the ability of the ~~parish~~ Church ~~& the desire of the~~ in ~~the~~ Rector ~~of the~~ & to the continuance of the Salary of Dr. Abercrombie during the period for the quarterly payments mentioned

Rev. Dr Abercrombie

1821